the country during 1986-87 was 187.6 Billion Kilowatt hours (units).

(b) The total energy requirement during April 1987 to February 1988 was 192.56 Billion units against which the availability was 171.29 Billion units.

Closure of Jogighopa Paper Mill

1185. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ashok Paper Mill at Jogighopa in Assam, has been closed for a long time whereas a large number of its employees subsist on a part of their regular salary;

(b) if so, what are the diffculties in re-opening this paper mill;

(c) whether it is a fact that the re-opening of this paper mill was incorporated in the Assam accord: and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) The Jogighopa unit of Ashok Paper Mills in Assam is lying closed since March, 1983. According to the Assam Accord, the Central Government has agreed to render full assistance to the State Government in their efforts to re-open *inter alia* the Ashok Paper Mills. The Central Government have accordingly offered to provide necessary assistance to the Government of Assam for the re-opening of the mill, as envisaged in the Assam Accord. Consultations with the State Government are still in progress with regard to the modalities for re-opening the unit.

Setting up of Heavy Industries in North Eastern Region

1186. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a number of heavy industries in the North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of these industries and by when these will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) During the 7th Plan period a polyester staple fibre project under Bongaigaon Refineries & Petrochemicals Ltd. has been envisaged to be set up in Assam. In addition, Namrup III Fertilizer Project under Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and the Cachar Paper Project of Hindustan Paper Corporation have been set up in April, 1987 and December 1987 respectively

Steps to boost the Small Scale Industries

1187. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has urged to State Governments to ensure availability of power to industries and also to build the infrastructure for entrepreneurs to move into backward areas;

(b) whether on the directions by the Central Government, the State Governments are providing power to the SSIs; and

(c) if so, to what extent the growth of SSIs in the country is being boosted'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Provision of infrastructural facilities for industrialisation of various States is primarily the responsibility of concerns State Governments Central Government encourages and supplements these efforts particularly for industrialisation of backward areas through incentives like provision of central investment subsidy at the rates of 25 percent, 15 percent and 10 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs, Rs. 15 lakhs and Rs. 10

1 cases of backward districts ;ories A, B and C respectively.

The growth rates of industrial ..ion estimated in real terms e small scale sector during the ..ree years were as under:—

Year	Growth rate (%)
1984-85 . . .	12.0
1985-86 . . .	12.8
1986-87 . . .	13.2

Licence to aerated water company

1188. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aerated water company has been given an import licence for raw material; and

(b) if so, the name of the company and the items being imported by it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

एल० पी० जी० उपभोक्ताओं को कूपनों का जारी किया जाना

1189. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तेल कम्पनियां कदाचारों को, जैसे घरेलू उपयोग के एल० पी० जी० सिलेंडरों की बिक्री में कालाबाजारी रोकने के लिए उपभोक्ताओं को कूपन जारी करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यह परिपाटी कब तक आरंभ कर दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री रफीक आलम) : (क) और (ख) तेल कम्पनियों का उनके द्वारा अपनी सूची में दर्ज एल० पी०जी० उपभोक्ताओं को शीघ्र ही चरणबद्ध रूप से घरेलू गैस उपभोक्ता कार्ड जारी करने का प्रस्ताव है। इस कार्ड से प्राधिकृत उपभोक्ताओं को एल० पी० जी० रिफिलों की डिलिवरी देने में सहायता मिलेगी।

Shortage of High Speed Diesel in the Country

1190. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of High Speed Diesel in the country at present, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to import HSD to meet the requirements of the Agricultural Sector of the country and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) While there is no general shortage of HSD in the country, sporadic reports of shortage at some locations due to IR problem, movement constraints etc. have been received and prompt action has been taken to rush supplies from alternative sources to such locations. The requirement of HSD in Andhra Pradesh has been met by and large in full, in spite of high off-take due to power cut imposed in the State and constraints mentioned above.

Since the country is not self-sufficient in HSD, this product is being imported during the current